

SENATOR **Nell Soto** 32nd Senatorial District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GOVERNOR SIGNS SENATOR SOTO'S BILL CREATING A REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR BLIND VENDORS

Fund Helps Vendors in State, County and Federal Buildings

Sacramento – Blind Vendors with concession stands in government buildings will now have access to loans to help expand their businesses and buy equipment. Senator Nell Soto (D-Ontario) authored the bill that will help these entrepreneurs stay in business.

“These small business owners need this fund to help keep their businesses going,” claims Soto. “They are trying to be self sufficient and we should be there to help. This is their livelihood. I am happy the governor saw the need for this group of business owners.”

SB 87 allocates \$100,000 from the General Fund to create the Blind Vendor Revolving Loan Fund. The Department of Rehabilitation will oversee this fund and make loans to blind vendors. The loans can be used for inventory and expendable equipment. Vendors can apply for \$10,000 loans.

The new revolving loan fund goes will be available to the vendors January 2002.

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